Visit of International Credit Rating Agencies

3697. SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether some International Credit Rating Agencies visited India recently to assess the strengths and weaknesses of its economy; and

(b) If so, the reaction of the Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI RAMESHWAR THAKUR): (a) No Credit Rating Agency has visited India in the current financial year so far.

(b) Question does not arise.

Assistance for Handloom Cloth Provided Under Market Development Scheme to Andhra Pradesh

3698. SHRI J. CHOKKA RAO: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) the assistance provided to Andhra Pradesh under the Market Development Scheme for handloom cloth during 1989-90, 1990-91 and 1991-92 so far; and

(b) the amount utilised for primary societies and the APEX Society therefrom during these years, year-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI ASHOK GEHLOT): (a) The assistance provided by Central Government to Andhra Pradesh under Market Development Assistance Scheme during 1989-90, 1990-91 and 1991-92 is as follows

Year	*Amount (Rs. in lakhs)*
1989-90	280.30
1990-91	440.50
1991-92	242.97

(b) Market Development Assistance is provided on 50 : 50 matching basis by Central Government and State Government. As per information received from Government of Andhra Pradesh, in 1989-90, amount released to APCO was Rs. 448.66 lakhs and to Primary Societies Rs.285. 07 lakhs. For 1990-91 amount released to APCO was Rs. 380 lakhs and to Primary Societies Rs. 315.43 lakhs. For 1991-92 amount released to APCO is Rs. 208.66 lakhs and to Primary Societies Rs. 20.54 lakhs.

Fake Underwriting of Capital Issues

3699. SHRI SANAT KUMAR MANDAL: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are aware that fake underwriting of capital issues has become rampant especially in the case of bigger issues; and

(b) if so, the action proposed to be taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI RAMESHWAR THAKUR): (a) No such case has been brought to the notice of the Government.

(b) Does not arise in view of reply to (a) above